COMING UP AT TGS

The monthly program meeting for February will feature Dr. Carl Graves, a Civil War expert, who will demonstrate how to integrate Civil War research into your family history narrative. We hope to see you at 7:00 at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library.

March 2, 9:30 - Class, "DNA Testing 23 & Me," TGS, register here
March 2, 9:30 - Family History Writers' Group, TGS
March 8, 9:30 -- Family Tree Maker Computer Genealogy Group, TGS
March 8, 1:00 -- TGS Board Meeting, TGS
March 12, 9:30 - DIG (DNA Interest Group), TGS
March 12, 1:00 - Brick Wall Session, TGS
March 17, 10:00 - Saturday Skillbuilder, TGS, "Using the TGS Website"
March 18, 2:00 -- Computer Genealogy (formerly PAF group), TGS
March 22, 7:00 - Monthly Program, "Veterans' History Project," TSCPL

April 6, 1:30 -- Class, "DNA - Using GEDMATCH," TGS, register here
April 6, 9:30 - Family History Writers’ Group, TGS
April 9, 9:30 - DIG (DNA Interest Group), TGS
April 9, 1:00 - Brick Wall Session, TGS
April 12, 9:30 -- Family Tree Maker Computer Genealogy Group, TGS
April 12, 1:00 -- TGS Board Meeting, TGS
April 20-21 -- TGS Annual Conference, "Finding Unfindable Ancestors," KSHS more information and registration here

NEWS FROM THE PREZ

It is always hard to come up with a new topic each month. Does anyone want to write my article for me? Just one month - another volunteer activity… LOL. In the coming months, I hope to twist some arms of the committee chairs to write a short article. Great Idea! I can skip mine.!!!!

We welcome a few new folks to the Board of Directors. Jahhnie Brake has volunteered for the Finance Committee. Susie Graber has agreed to be our Administrator. Both of these members are bringing their talents to our organization, so please thank them for volunteering. Very soon you will receive a member survey; please fill it out and return it to TGS. It will really help us in our planning in the years to come. This has not been done for many years and is so needed.
Attention Everyone: You missed an awesome Skill Builder on Wolfram Alpha last Saturday. I’m going to give the web address. It is a must for everyone. www.wolframalpha.com If you have questions on how to use the site, please contact Cindy Cruz. I want to thank Cindy for giving this class. It was awesome.

There is a DNA class on 23 and Me DNA on March 2 at 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. If you have not signed up and you want to attend, please do so quickly. If you have tested on other sites and think it might be time to try 23 and Me, please come. If you have tested on 23 and Me and just do not understand what and how to do it, please come. The class will meet both needs.

I know many of you have watched Sunflower Journeys on KTWU. I have a surprise for you. Dale Kendall has an incredible 90-minute program on “Prairie Women: Engaging Women of the Flint Hills.” A public screening of this amazing program will be held at Emporia – Granada Theatre: Sunday, March 11th, 2 PM and another one at Manhattan – Wareham Opera House: Sunday, March 25th, 2 PM. How about a TGS road trip? One is in the planning stage. If you would like to go, tell me which date and I will set up a car pool. Send me an email please but I will take a phone call. I will attend at least one of the showing, so, it would be fun to make an afternoon of it. We could go out to eat after the movie. If we go to the showing on March 11th we could say, “We saw it first.”

All members and the public are invited to come to any of our events, classes, SIGS (special interest groups), programs, and our many adventures. Welcome new members to be a part of the energized organization.

Marty Flanagan

REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW FOR OUR 2018 CONFERENCE!

The 46th Annual Conference of the Topeka Genealogical Society will be held April 20 & 21, 2018 at the Kansas State Historical Society, in Topeka.

Conference registration information is available on the TGS website or you can register at Eventbrite. Paper registration forms will be available at TGS. It is strongly suggested you register before March 17 as there is an additional processing fee as well as the $10 late fee after that date.

The featured speaker on Saturday will be Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS, board certified genealogist, editor of the National Genealogical Society Quarterly, award winning writer and author. His theme will be “Finding Unfindable Ancestors.” This will be a great conference - don’t miss it!

TOPEKA GIVES - A FUN DAY OF GIVING SPONSORED BY THE TOPEKA COMMUNITY GIVING FOUNDATION
On **June 5, 2018**, the Topeka Genealogical Society will be participating in **Topeka Gives** sponsored by the Topeka Community Foundation. The event will be held at Fairlawn Plaza Mall from 7:00 AM -6:00 PM.

On that day, the Community Foundation will accept donations for participating non-profit organizations and provide a proportional match for each donation. Last year the match was nearly 18%. So far, $65,600 has been earmarked as “match money” for this year.

Donations must be made **in person** by cash, check or credit card. One hundred percent of donations will go to the organization(s) selected by the donor. A minimum of $25 up to a maximum of $1000 may be donated per donor per organization. Up to 5 different organizations may be selected. Donations are tax deductible and the Community Foundation will provide each donor with a receipt letter. Donations made that day will help TGS purchase much needed equipment so volunteers may continue to digitize and share historic records in the organization’s collection.

Mark **June 5** on your calendar now and start saving. Let’s increase the number of donors and the total donated to TGS that day. This is an opportunity to support your favorite non-profits and learn about the variety of services they provide in the community.

**HELP WANTED AD**

We want to thank those members who stepped forward and volunteered for the following positions:

- **Susie Graber will be our new Administration Chair.**
- **Eileen Cox will be the Newsletter Editor effective in April.**
- **Barb LaClair will be our new Webmaster.**

And thank you to all our volunteer librarians. We now have a full slate!

However there are still a few positions to fill:

- **A Treasurer is urgently needed immediately as our current Treasurer needs to retire.** He will be available to train his replacement.
- **We could use two volunteers to help Dave Haslett on IT matters.**
- **We could use one more volunteer to be on the Finance committee.** Expertise in building maintenance, insurance and real estate would be beneficial for members on this committee.
- **We are looking for a Media Coordinator to manage Society publicity through social media such as our Facebook pages, Twitter, Instagram, etc.**
- **And we need a Committee Chair for our annual picnic.**

If you are interested, please contact me at janiceashby3131@yahoo.com .

**A FASCINATING CHARACTER - A FEMALE REVOLUTIONARY WAR VETERAN**
At the January program meeting, Anna Smith came in the character of Deborah Sampson, who disguised herself as a man to fight in the Revolutionary War.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR TGS MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018?

We have added a new, convenient feature to make your experience of joining or renewing a breeze. On our website click on “Membership – Join Us”, then choose “online join” and follow the guidance. It’s that simple! Thank you for your membership in TGS!

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